

WEEKEND



Saturday
AUGUST 21, 2010

redeyechicago.com

A Chicago Tribune publication

★ FREE ★

TRENT J. KOLAND
REDEYE ILLUSTRATION

OMG! You can update your
relationship status because ...

he proposed online

pages 8-9



Kid Sister pumps up block party **2**

Blago won't do plea deal **20**

Dangerous life of a jockey **21**

playlist

POWERED BY metromix

INSIDE METROMIX



DINING

"Lunch" is really brunch at Kith & Kin in Lincoln Park.
Page 17

FORECAST



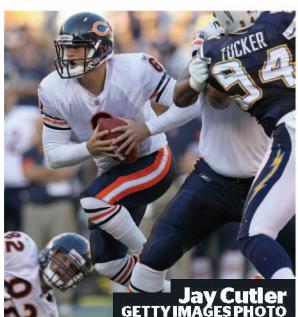
Saturday

87
70Umbrellas
be poppin'.

Sunday

82
70Sunny and
warm!

GAME DAY

Jay Cutler
GETTY IMAGES PHOTO

**Bears vs.
Oakland**
7:30 p.m. Saturday
Soldier Field

**Cubs vs.
Atlanta**
3:10 p.m. Saturday
1:20 p.m. Sunday
Wrigley Field

**Red Stars vs.
FC Gold Pride**
5 p.m. Sunday
Toyota Park

FETE

Weekend festivals

North Center, Rogers Park, Hyde Park

Time's a-wasting to celebrate the glorious tenets of summer: sun, beer and drinking beer in the sun. So make an excuse to get yourself to a festival while you still can toast a brewski to warm weather.

» **North Side Summerfest**, Lincoln and Belle Plaine Avenues.
\$5 donation.

When: 5-10 p.m. Friday; noon-10 p.m. Saturday-Sunday
Go for: Cover bands Sixteen Candles, Wedding Banned and Hairbangers Ball

» **Glenwood Avenue Arts Fest**, Glenwood Avenue between Lunt and Farwell Avenues. Free.

When: Noon-9 p.m. Saturday-Sunday
Go for: More than 100 local artists

» **Chicago Carifete**, Midway Plaisance, 1200-1300 E. 59th St. Free.

When: 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday; noon-9 p.m. Sunday
Go for: Caribbean food, art, music and a big parade (1 p.m. Saturday)

**WEEKEND
PICKS**
BY LISA BALDE

SHOW

Doggie love

It's summer; take your pooch outside. At **Temple Bar** (3001 N. Ashland Ave. 773-248-0990), support National Homeless Pets Day during a patio party introducing dogs up for adoption and selling New Leash on Life merch to benefit the organization. Includes doggie treats and a few food-and-drink people treats (\$1.50 mini-burgers and \$5 bombs). On Sunday, Mercury Skyline Cruise Line continues its weekly **Canine Cruise** (Michigan Avenue and Wacker Drive) along the lake and Chicago River. Bring your doggie for \$7. Human tix cost \$24 (purchase day of cruise).

When: Noon-3 p.m. Saturday (Temple Bar); 10 a.m. Sunday (Canine Cruise)

The Lovehammers

Hard Rock Hotel, 63 W. Ontario St.

The local rockers play a benefit concert for Madina Lake's Matthew Leone. \$20-\$25. Sun. throughthepain.org

BZZZ

MORE EVENTS
ON OUR RADAR



DANCE

Mad Decent

West Town

Taking the place of Hideout's usual end-of-summer Block Party is the **Mad Decent Block Party** (1354 W. Wabansia Ave. 773-227-4433), a 3-year-old traveling dance bash ending its 2010 four-town stint in Chicago. A few things to consider if you're a Hideout Block Party loyalist deciding whether to check out this new music fest:

1. It's free (be sure to sign up with your name and e-mail at maddecentblockparty.com).
2. Chi's own shining rap star Kid Sister headlines (7:30 p.m.). Judging by her excellent Millennium Park performance this summer, we're sure we won't be disappointed.
3. A sort of boogie-down raucousness has followed Mad Decent through Philly (its hometown), New York and L.A. with Bosco Delrey, Maluca, Paul Devro and Blaqstarr. Chicago brings rap and DJ jams with Freddie Gibbs, Ghetto Division and Willy Joy.
4. Expect surprises, unprecedented dancing and a true block party sensibility.

When: 1-8 p.m.
Saturday

Kid Sister

REDEYE FILE PHOTO

Wizard World

5555 N. River Rd. Rosemont. 847-692-2220

Hit the 'burbs for this Chicago Comic Con fest at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat. \$25-\$30.

SHOP

The Vintage Bazaar

Logan Square

At this pop-up flea market coordinated by vintage decor bloggers Katherine Raz and Libby Alexander (right), there's more to vintage shopping than '50s circle skirts, leopard-print clutches and rhinestone costume jewelry (although we love those things too). Furniture, knick-knacks and some seriously cool home furnishings are at the heart of the **Vintage Bazaar** (Congress Theatre, 2135 N. Milwaukee Ave. thevintagebazaar.com). Other reasons to swing by: slick menswear, Hoosier Mama pie slices and an impressive array of ladies clothing. Show up early with an empty backseat; you're gonna need it. Free.

When: Noon-7 p.m. Sunday



METROMIX.COM
YOU
SAID IT!

Comments from readers about new bars and restaurants

Lillie's Q

1856 W. North Ave.
773-772-5500

"After trying ribs all over the city, this is hands down my favorite." -JEFFG

Sprinkles Cupcakes

50 E. Walton St.
312-573-1600

"I will definitely go back for the red velvet, because it is better than everyone else's. The strawberry, I would not recommend." -EVENTGIRL

Urban Burger Bar

1578 N. Clybourn
Ave. 312-255-0055

"My waitress suggested a draft that was sooo good, I wanted to bathe in it." -GOLDCOASTER

Benchmark

"It is a very unique layout unlike any other bar in the city. Pretty awesome space!" -MR8892

Racine Plumbing Bar & Grill

2642 N. Lincoln Ave.
773-871-1600

"I opted for the Mac and Cheese and I will make a trip back ONLY FOR THE MAC AND CHEESE!!!! This is the best you've seen." -JAREYNOLDS2

EAT

Lotsa barbecue

There's a reason Chicago's in love with barbecue (signaled by the slew of 'cue spots opening all over town this summer): Local chefs do it well. For the second year, **Goose Island Beer Company** (1800 W. Fulton St.) hosts the Slow Food Chicago Pig Roast benefit featuring chefs from nine local restaurants: Rick Gresh (David Burke's Primehouse), Jared Wentworth (Longman & Eagle) and Rob Leavitt (Mado) among them.

Vegetarians are treated to eats from Stephanie Samuels of Angel Food Bakery.

Gobble up eats, sip beer in a commemorative beer glass and take tours of the brewery (first-come, first-served). In other barbecue news, **Kendall College's School of Culinary Arts** (900 N. North Branch St. 312-752-2352) prepares an all-you-can-eat buffet of smoked meats with sides for its final exam. \$60 (pig roast); \$10-\$25 (Kendall College).

When: 2 p.m. Sunday (pig roast); 5:30 p.m. Sunday (Kendall College)



Rob Leavitt
METROMIX FILE PHOTO

LISA BALDE IS THE METROMIX PRINT EDITOR. LBALDE@TRIBUNE.COM

City Chase

Start: Merchandise Mart, 222 Merchandise Mart Plaza

Compete in teams of two in the fourth annual "urban adventure." Prize is a BlackBerry Bold and a trip to the championships. 8 a.m. Saturday. \$190 per team.

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worldwidered

"I am a little bummed that we're not wrapping ['Heroes'] up properly, so they're still talking about making a two-hour movie and trying to wrap up these characters. I just think we owe [that] to the audience."

Greg Grunberg to RedEye's Curt Wagner about his former NBC show. Check out Grunberg's entire interview, including talk about his upcoming Lifetime movie, "Bond of Silence," at redeyechicago.com/showpatrol.

Life's a zoo

Ever wondered what it would be like to work at a zoo? Now you can find out! Visit RedEye's BrokeAss blog at redeyechicago.com/brokeass to tag along with reader Christina Mazulis for an exclusive peek into the zoo life, and check back each week for more adventures in RedEye's Job Fantasy Camp.



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deja view

"Muslims have the same right to practice their religion as everyone else in this country. That includes the right to build a place of worship and a community center on private property in lower Manhattan in accordance with local laws and ordinances."

—President Obama (right), who later clarified that his support for the right to build wasn't necessarily an endorsement of the project



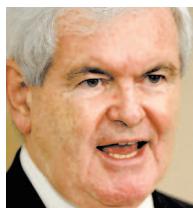
GETTY IMAGES PHOTO

The mosque division

The public debate over whether a Muslim cultural center and mosque should be constructed two blocks from the World Trade Center reached a fever pitch this week. Here are a handful of quotes about the issue that have made headlines.

"My major prayer is that what has turned into somewhat of a divisive issue might develop into an occasion of very civil, rational, loving, respectful discussion."

—Roman Catholic Archbishop **Timothy Dolan** to WNBC-TV on his willingness to participate in negotiations on the placement of the center



"Nazis don't have the right to put up a sign next to the Holocaust museum in Washington. There is no reason for us to accept a mosque next to the World Trade Center."

—Former House Speaker **Newt Gingrich** to Fox TV

"The downtown place is perfect because it would be a hub for people in Brooklyn, Queens, Manhattan, and if you work downtown, it's a great place to pop in for noon prayers if you are observant."

—**Peter Awn**, professor of Islamic religion at Columbia University

Heat index

RedEye takes the temperature of current events



Rod Blagojevich
Here comes the retrial



Iraq War
U.S. combat troops out



Derrek Lee
Traded to Atlanta



Wrigleyville
Neighborhood in transition



Wizard World
Chicago nerds unite!



Steven Tyler
New "Idol" judge?



That's Chicago's record for most consecutive days with a high temperature of 80 degrees or above, the Tribune reported. The string, which ended with Tuesday's high of 79, beat the record of 42 days set in 1955.



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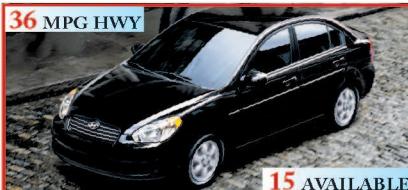
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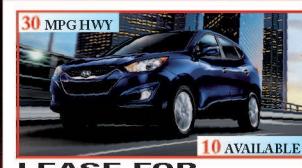
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Wilkins Savings
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**New 2010
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Wilkins Savings
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**WILKINS PRICE
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Wilkins Savings
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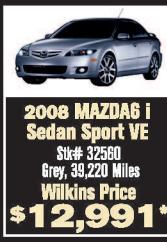
**New 2010
Mazda CX-9 Sport**
Stk# 15322 - vin JM3TB2MA7A0216913

MSRP \$29,875
Wilkins Savings
-\$1,797

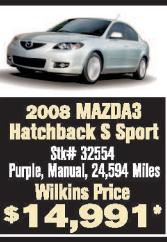
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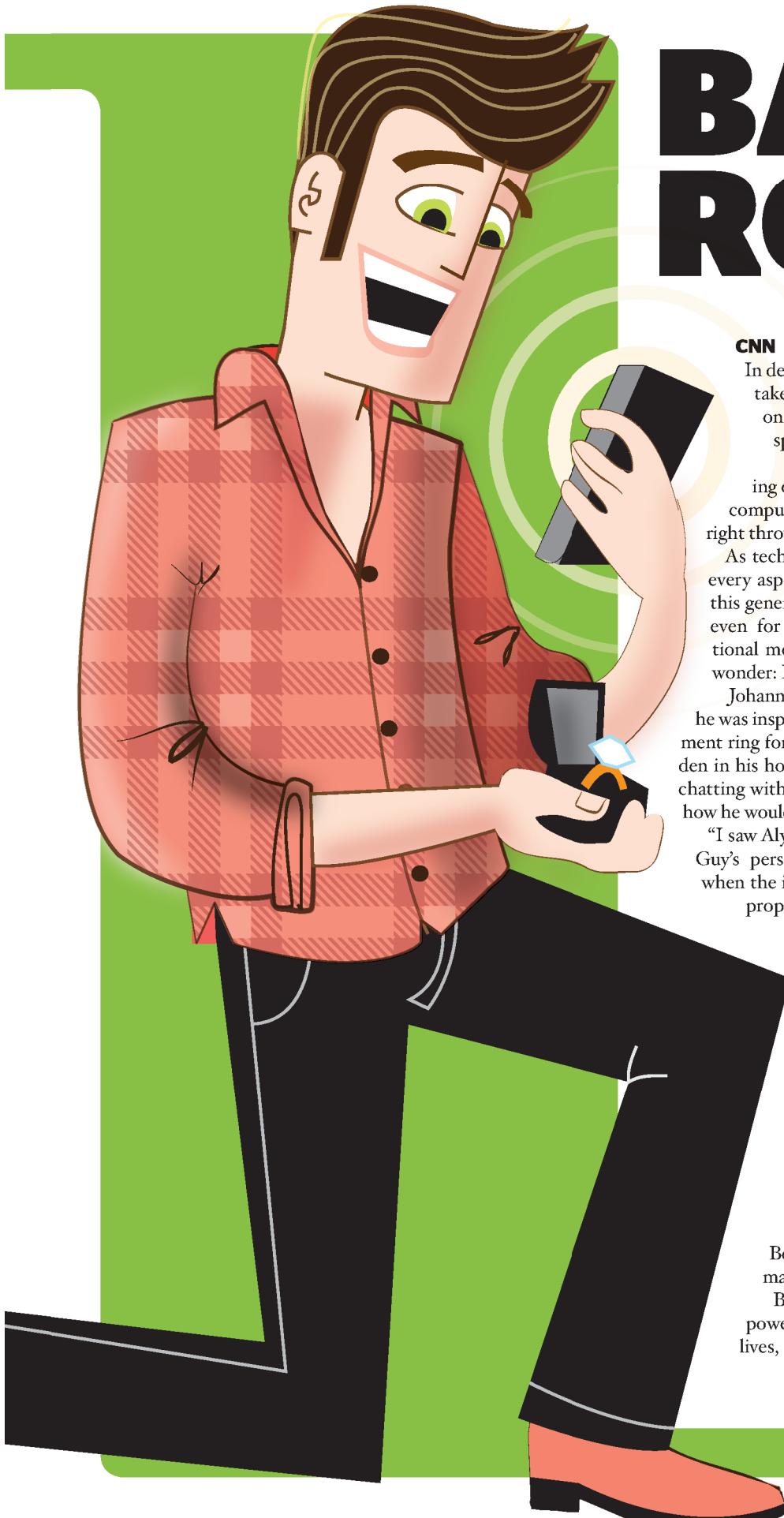
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BAD ROMANCE?

AS SOME EMBRACE DIGITAL PROPOSALS, OTHERS LAMENT AN AFFRONT TO CHIVALRY

CNN

In decades past, your grandfather may have taken granny to the park, gotten down on one knee and proposed to her, with a sparkling ring in hand.

Nowadays, some suitors are reaching out to their brides-to-be through their computer, pushing a button and proposing right through the Internet.

As technology continues to touch on almost every aspect of social life, there is no stopping this generation's use of the Internet as a tool—even for marriage. But with these nontraditional methods of courtship, can we help but wonder: Is chivalry dead?

Johannes S. Beals was online recently when he was inspired to propose marriage. The engagement ring for his longtime girlfriend had been hidden in his home for four months, and it was while chatting with other filmmakers that he figured out how he would propose to his wife.

"I saw Alyssa Milano tweet about the Old Spice Guy's personalized video responses and that's when the idea popped in my head to ask him to propose to my wife," said Beals, a producer and director in California.

He tweeted to Isaiah Mustafa, the shirtless shower man who plays the Old Spice Guy, "Can U Ask my girlfriend to marry me? Her name is Angela A. Hutt-Chamberlin."

Three hours later the deal was done. The Old Spice Guy, wrapped in his towel, appears in a bathroom, dims the lights, rolls in candles, holds out a ring and reads the proposal in a deep, chivalrous voice.

The video proposal went viral and Beals now is on his way to becoming a married man.

Beals' proposal is one example of the power the Internet can have in personal lives, and raised the question about how

MORE ONLINE

Got a classic marriage proposal story? We want to hear it! Tweet your tale to [@redeyechicago](#). You can interact with RedEye anytime at [facebook.com/theredeye](#) or [twitter.com/redeyechicago](#).

technology affects the tradition of the marriage proposal.

Sarah Pease, owner of Brilliant Event Planning, said that as time passes, proposals are becoming more elaborate and that technology encourages more opportunities for lovers to express their creativity. However, she finds the idea of proposing online as a substitute for the traditional act of getting down on one knee a bit puzzling.

"Any proposal where the girl says 'yes' is a great proposal," Pease said. "But would I recommend proposing on Twitter or online to my clients? Never."

The current world of technology pressures people to do things bigger and better than in the past, she said.

Yet she believes that by using social media or the Internet as a sole medium to pop the question devalues the wedding proposal and denies the man the true creative buzz that comes from planning the big moment.

"Proposing online may work for some people, but I think there are just so many other creative ways that you can pop the question and still embrace the tradition of getting down on one knee," Pease said.

It is men's fear of rejection that pushes them to want to go public with their proposals online, said Michael Rosenfeld, an associate professor of sociology at Stanford University.

Just like proposing on a JumboTron at a baseball game, proposing in public gives men control by creating a situation that pressures women into saying yes.

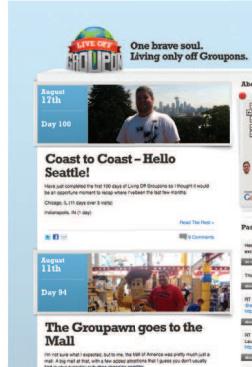
"Proposing online or in any public space has something to do with power in the relationship," Rosenfeld said. "There might be fear if you ask them one-on-one because the woman might say no. Proposing in public helps to reduce that risk."

Creativity 2.0



Alex and Luke alexandluke.com

These two Canadian friends turned to social media for one heck of a life-changing experiment—an exploration of North America. They have no route, no plans ... just a goal to travel through every state, province and territory while sharing the experience online. But that's not the best part—they're letting people they don't know tell them where to go next.



The Groupawn liveoffgroupon.com

Josh Stevens isn't someone who shies away from a challenge. The 28-year-old Chicagoan is the one and only Groupawn, living off a year's supply of Groupons and Groupons only. He's got no cash. He started in May, and if he lasts until May of next year he'll earn \$100,000—in cash, not Groupons.



Month at the Museum msichicago.org/matm

Remember the "Night at the Museum" movies? Here's your chance to watch someone let his inner Ben Stiller out. The Museum of Science and Industry is looking for someone to live at the museum from Oct. 20 through Nov. 18. The journey will be tracked via blog, Twitter and other social media channels. Surviving the month will pay off—the prize is \$10,000.

Lovebirds aren't the only ones attracting attention for their fun, creative social media projects. Here are five noteworthy efforts going on right now in Chicago and beyond. **SCOTT KLEINBERG, REDEYE**



Around Chicago in 85 Tours 85tours.com

If one Chicago Architecture Foundation tour excites you, this project will blow your mind. From January through December, Jennifer Luente is taking all of the foundation's 85 tours and documenting each one via social media. Why would anyone do this? Luente describes herself as a girl from Chicago who has always loved the city but didn't know much about it.



What also makes proposing online more attractive are economic benefits and feasibility.

"The Internet is a lot more accessible—it's more difficult to get a billboard at a baseball game or to hire a jumbo jet," said Christina Warren, whose fiance proposed to her on Twitter in January 2009.

"Grand gestures can be made online at little to no cost, and depending on the people that are involved, the proposal becomes more meaningful," Warren said.

The reporter for **mashable.com** and her computer programmer fiance are self-proclaimed computer nerds whose obsessions with all things tech made their online proposal feel appropriate.

Yet it is this dramatic sense of efficiency, Rosenfeld said, that supports technology's

"obsessive and overtrumping culture." The meaning behind the tradition of the wedding proposal and the chivalrous man coming to court his lady's hand gets lost in a whirlwind of information that appears to be attempts at just being noticed.

"With the Internet, people tend to be less concerned with privacy," Rosenfeld said. "They want to be obsessively public about something that people may think of as a private matter."

"Fame and notoriety is something that people always have sought. In the Internet age, the border to fame and notoriety is much lower, and because we live in an age of very gratifying self-promotion, online proposals can sometimes devalue tradition."

But for those who fame has hit for ventur-

ing online with a wedding proposal—such as Stephanie Sullivan Rewis and Greg Rewis, who became the first couple to propose on Twitter—chivalry still is alive.

"I didn't feel any different than women whose boyfriend proposes on the JumboTron or billboard in Times Square feel," Stephanie Rewis said. "Is it the method that matters or the thought and outcome?"

Rosenfeld said he agrees with the latter.

"I think that people can still have a very old-fashioned view of relationships and the pursuit of marriage," he said. "The way people meet and are doing things are rapidly changing, and the Internet is increasingly becoming the intermediary for all that."

"So chivalry isn't dead. I think it is every bit of alive as it has ever been."

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TV ON DVD AND BLU-RAY

Dexter: The Fourth Season

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This season of the series is worth recommending just for Michael C. Hall's amazing performance as the serial killer/forensics expert. Toss in a equally amazing performance by John Lithgow as a serial killer/family man and the DVD is a must own. But wait, there's more. The bonus is the DVD includes the season finale that's one of the best enders ever. **RICK BENTLEY, MCT**

TV

Lake Placid 3

8 p.m. Saturday, Syfy

Sadie Bickerman is long gone, which means neither Betty White nor Cloris Leachman is back for this second sequel. But don't worry, Sadie's grand-nephew, Connor, seems to have inherited Sadie's need to feed the giant crocs—at least until they decided to chow on swimmers, hunters and anyone else who happens by Black Lake. Colin Ferguson of "Eureka" grounds some of the silliness as a Sadie's nephew, game warden Nathan. But not even he can cap the crazy Yancy Butler brings as a big game hunter-for-hire. She's over-the-top and awesome. **CURT WAGNER, REDEYE**

VIDEO GAME

Scott Pilgrim vs. the World

PlayStation 3 download

Ubisoft's take on the "Scott Pilgrim" universe feels less like a quick cash-in and more like a love letter to both the 8-bit gaming world and fans of the source material. It's a classic 2-D beat-'em-up (think "Double Dragon" or "River City Ransom") in which as many as four players can guide Pilgrim and friends through seven stages and seven boss battles against love interest Ramona's seven evil exes. "Pilgrim" suffers some obvious limitations (no online play), but that has more to do with meticulously parroting the outdated design of 20-year-old games than any particularly bad choice made by the game makers. **RYAN SMITH FOR REDEYE**

LOATHE IT

DVD AND BLU-RAY

Furry Vengeance

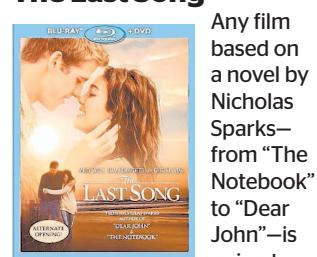
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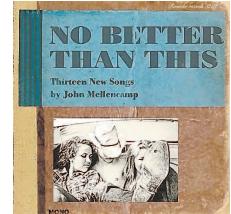
This is a one-joke story (and that's being generous) with about as much appeal as a skunk hug. The failing starts with the idea that Brendan Fraser's character should be the brunt of all of the animal wrath. He's really a compassionate person, so all of the abuse is misdirected and leaves the animals looking like the bad guys. It proves "Furry Vengeance" is the film industry's answer to road kill. **RICK BENTLEY, MCT**

DVD AND BLU-RAY

The Last Song



Any film based on a novel by Nicholas Sparks—from "The Notebook" to "Dear John"—is going to be sentimental. It's how the actors wade through the emotional bog that makes or breaks the film. In this film about an angry teen (Miley Cyrus) who spends the summer with her father, Cyrus doesn't have the acting skill to get through the bog. **RICK BENTLEY, MCT**



ALBUM
No Better Than This
John Mellencamp




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The Switch
(PG-13)

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Beware the wicked 'Switch'

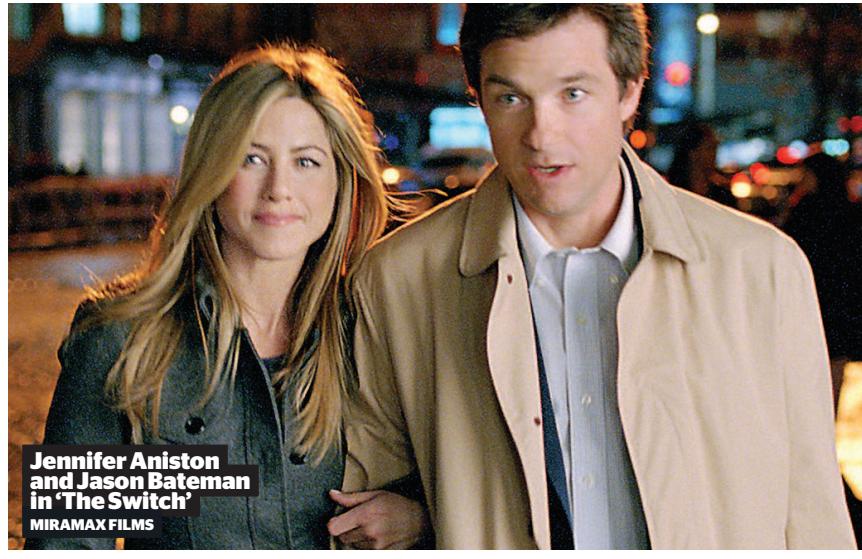
Feeling slighted when his best friend, Kassie (Jennifer Aniston), wants a sperm donation from someone else, Wally (Jason Bateman) gets intoxicated and swaps out the donor's (Patrick Wilson) contribution for his own. Seven years later, Wally doesn't even remember doing this, but eventually everyone is bound to see the similarities between this neurotic jerk and Kassie's son, Sebastian (Thomas Robinson).

The buzz: Artificial insemination obviously is this year's hot means of getting pregnant on screen, also turning up in "The Kids Are All Right" and Jennifer Lopez's terrible "The Back-Up Plan." As long as "The Switch" is better than Aniston's

"The Bounty Hunter," we'll table a discussion about a strange trend that already feels exhausted.

The verdict: Once Wally becomes a completely different guy and shares a few OK moments with Sebastian, "The Switch" transitions from painfully bad to just mediocre. The entire film is uneasily balanced between nasty humor and corny sentimentality, yet almost nothing registers as funny or sweet. All you can do is sit there, loathing these characters, waiting for them to learn the truth and wishing to be somewhere else. It's like pulling the pin on a delayed-explosion grenade and waiting around for it to blow. **MATT PAIS IS THE METROMIX**

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**Jennifer Aniston
and Jason Bateman
in 'The Switch'**
MIRAMAX FILMS

Worth watching?

MATT'S PICKS FOR WHAT'S ALSO IN THEATERS

Cairo Time (PG)

Beautiful
and sad.

**Scott Pilgrim vs.
the World** (PG-13)

Funny but shallow.

Animal Kingdom (R)

Gripping
for a while.

Lottery Ticket (PG-13)

No thanks
for playing.

Eat Pray Love (PG-13)

Delicious food
isn't enough.

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■ **The Switch** (PG-13) * 10:45, 1:30, 4:10, 7:00, 9:45
■ **Eat Pray Love** (PG-13) 10:00, 1:10, 4:20, 7:30, 10:45
■ **The Expendables** (R) 11:50, 2:30, 5:10, 7:40, 10:20
■ **The Other Guys** (PG-13) * 10:30, 1:40, 4:40, 7:20, 10:10
■ **Scott Pilgrim vs. the World** (PG-13) 11:30, 2:20, 5:00, 7:50, 10:40
■ **Dinner for Schmucks** (PG-13) 4:30 P.M.
■ **Salt** (PG-13) 11:00, 1:50, 7:10, 10:00
■ **Inception** (PG-13) 11:20, 2:25, 6:15, 9:30

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■ **Get Low** (PG-13) 11:15, 1:40, 4:55, 7:15, 10:55
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■ **Mao's Last Dancer** (PG) 1:50, 4:35, 7:20, 10:00
■ **Animal Kingdom** (R) 11:25, 1:40, 4:40, 7:25, 10:05
■ **The Extra Man** (R) 11:05, 4:45, 10:15
■ **I Am Love** (R) 1:35, 7:30
■ **Winter's Bone** (R) 11:20, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 9:40
■ **The Kids Are All Right** (R) 11:00, 1:30, 4:10, 7:00, 10:10

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7:40, 8:30, 10:20, 10:50
■ **Nanny McPhee Returns** (PG) 10:20, 1:00, 3:50, 6:40, 9:15
■ **Piranha 3D** (R) 11:20, 1:40, 4:00, 6:20, 8:40, 11:00
■ **Vampires Suck** (PG-13) 10:30, 12:10, 12:40, 2:15, 5:25,
4:40, 5:10, 6:50, 7:30, 9:45, 11:10
■ **Eat Pray Love** (PG-13) 10:00, 1:10, 4:20, 7:20, 10:40
■ **The Expendables** (R) 10:40, 12:00, 2:40, 3:45, 5:20, 8:00,
8:50, 10:45, 11:15
■ **Scott Pilgrim vs. the World** (PG-13) 10:45, 12:20,
1:30, 3:20, 4:10, 6:30, 7:00, 9:30, 10:00
■ **The Other Guys** (PG-13) 11:10, 1:50, 4:30, 7:15, 10:10
■ **Step Up 3D** (PG-13) 7:50, 10:25
■ **Cats & Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore 3D** (PG)
10:10, 12:30, 3:00, 5:30
■ **Salt** (PG-13) 1:20, 6:10
■ **Inception** (PG-13) 11:50, 3:40, 7:10, 10:10

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■ **The Kids Are All Right** (R) 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00
■ **Inception** (PG-13) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00

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4:25, 5:45, 7:00, 8:15, 9:30, 10:35
■ **Nanny McPhee Returns** (PG) * 11:00, 1:30, 4:10, 6:55, 9:50
■ **Eat Pray Love** (PG-13) 11:55, 3:15, 6:30, 9:45
■ **The Expendables** (R) 11:15, 2:15, 1:45, 2:45, 4:15, 5:15,
7:05, 8:05, 9:40, 10:30
■ **Scott Pilgrim vs. the World** (PG-13) 10:40, 1:10, 3:45, 6:35, 9:15
■ **The Other Guys** (PG-13) 11:05, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:55
■ **Step Up 3** (PG-13) 11:50, 2:20, 5:10, 7:45, 10:15
■ **Salt** (PG-13) 10:45, 12:30, 3:55, 6:45, 9:25
■ **Cats & Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore** (PG)
11:20, 1:40, 3:50, 5:55, 8:10, 10:20
■ **Despicable Me** (PG) 10:30, 12:45, 3:00, 5:25, 7:50, 10:05

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■ **The Sorcerer's Apprentice** (PG) 2:10, 4:20, 6:30, 8:40
■ **Despicable Me** (PG) 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10
■ **Toy Story 3** (G) 2:00, 4:05, 6:10, 8:20

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■ **The Girl Who Played With Fire** (R) 1:40, 4:20, 7:00
■ **Supernatural** (NR) 10:30 P.M.
■ **The Children's Hour** (NR) 11:30 A.M.
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■ **AMC Independent Cyrus** (R) 11:55, 4:45, 9:40
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4:50, 6:40, 7:40, 9:15, 10:20, 11:45
■ **The Switch** (PG-13) * 10:40, 1:20, 4:00, 6:45, 9:05, 11:35
■ **Nanny McPhee Returns** (PG) * 10:10, 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:10
■ **Vampires Suck** (PG-13) * 10:00, 12:20, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20, 11:40
■ **Eat Pray Love** (PG-13) 10:00, 11:00, 1:15, 2:15, 4:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30
■ **The Expendables** (R) 11:20, 12:20, 2:10, 3:55, 4:30, 5:00,
7:20, 8:20, 9:40, 10:15, 11:20
■ **The Other Guys** (PG-13) 11:15, 2:20, 5:10, 6:45, 9:15, 10:45
■ **Step Up 3D** (PG-13) 1:40, 4:35, 7:35, 10:35
■ **Dinner for Schmucks** (PG-13) 1:10, 2:25, 10:10
■ **Middle Men** (R) 10:05, 12:50, 3:40, 6:25, 9:10
■ **AMC Independent Get Low** (PG-13) 10:35, 3:55, 6:20, 9:05, 11:45
■ **Salt** (PG-13) 11:05, 1:15, 4:15, 5:55, 9:30
■ **AMC Independent The Kids Are All Right** (R) 10:05, 1:45, 4:20, 7:05, 9:45
■ **Inception** (PG-13) 10:05, 1:30, 4:45, 5:25, 7:15, 10:50
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■ **Piranha 3D** (R) 10:30, 1:00, 3:30, 5:55, 8:20, 10:45
■ **Lottery Ticket** (PG-13) 10:00, 11:00, 12:30, 1:30, 3:00, 4:05,
5:30, 6:30, 8:00, 9:00, 10:30
■ **The Switch** (PG-13) 11:20, 1:15, 4:30, 7:20, 9:55
■ **Nanny McPhee Returns** (PG) 10:15, 1:15, 4:20, 7:00, 9:35
■ **Vampires Suck** (PG-13) 11:45, 1:55, 4:15, 6:45, 9:15
■ **Eat Pray Love** (PG-13) 10:45, 1:50, 5:00, 8:30
■ **The Expendables** (R) 11:30, 2:00, 4:45, 7:15, 10:00
■ **The Other Guys** (PG-13) 11:05, 1:40, 4:25, 7:05, 9:40
■ **Scott Pilgrim vs. the World** (PG-13) 10:55, 1:35, 4:35, 7:10, 9:50
■ **Cats & Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore** (PG)
11:15, 2:15, 3:35, 3:45, 8:05, 10:15
■ **Step Up 3** (PG-13) 10:10, 12:45, 3:25, 6:15, 9:20
■ **Despicable Me** (PG) 10:05, 12:25, 2:45, 5:05, 7:25, 9:45
■ **Salt** (PG-13) 10:20, 12:50, 3:20, 5:50, 8:25, 10:50

SHOWPLACE VILLAGE CROSSING (AMC)

7000 Carpenter Rd., Chicago
(800) 326-3264 #2309

■ **Piranha 3D** (R) 10:30, 12:40, 2:05, 5:25, 7:45, 10:10, 12:30
■ **Lottery Ticket** (PG-13) 11:55, 2:25, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00, 12:30
■ **The Switch** (PG-13) 10:15, 12:35, 3:05, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30, 12:35
■ **Nanny McPhee Returns** (PG) 10:50, 1:45, 2:20, 7:00, 9:45, 12:30
■ **Eat Pray Love** (PG-13) 10:05, 1:10, 2:00, 4:10, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00
■ **The Expendables** (R) 11:20, 12:15, 1:55, 2:45, 4:25, 5:15,
6:10, 7:00, 7:50, 8:40, 9:30, 10:20, 11:15, 12:05
■ **Scott Pilgrim vs. the World** (PG-13) 11:35, 2:05, 4:40, 7:10, 9:45
■ **The Other Guys** (PG-13) 10:20, 12:50, 3:20, 5:50, 8:20, 10:10
■ **Step Up 3D** (PG-13) 10:00, 12:30, 3:10, 5:10, 5:40, 8:15, 10:55
■ **Dinner for Schmucks** (PG-13) 10:40, 1:15, 4:00, 6:40, 8:20, 11:55
■ **Cats & Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore** (PG)
11:45, 2:15, 3:45, 6:45, 8:55, 11:00
■ **Inception** (PG-13) 10:10, 1:20, 4:30, 7:40, 10:50
■ **Salt** (PG-13) 11:15, 1:50, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10
■ **Scott Pilgrim vs. the World** (PG-13) 11:45, 2:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30

SHOWPLACE CICERO 14 (AMC)

4779 W. Cermak, Cicero
(800) 326-3264 #1644

■ **Piranha 3D** (R) 10:00, 12:05, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:15, 11:30
■ **Lottery Ticket** (PG-13) 10:15, 11:40, 12:45, 2:15, 3:30, 5:00,
6:00, 7:30, 8:30, 10:00, 11:10
■ **The Switch** (PG-13) 11:35, 2:05, 4:35, 7:10, 9:35
■ **Nanny McPhee Returns** (PG) 11:05, 1:50, 4:45, 7:15, 10:10
■ **Piranha 3D** (R) * 11:20, 1:35, 3:55, 6:15, 15:35, 10:55
■ **The Expendables** (R) * 12:50, 3:25, 6:00, 8:35, 11:10
■ **The Other Guys** (PG-13) * 11:30, 2:00, 4:30, 7:05, 9:30
■ **Vampires Suck** (PG-13) 10:50, 12:55, 3:05, 5:15, 7:20, 9:30, 11:30
■ **Eat Pray Love** (PG-13) 11:45, 2:50, 6:10, 9:20
■ **The Expendables** (R) 10:30, 12:15, 1:15, 2:25, 4:45, 5:10,
6:30, 7:45, 9:00, 10:15, 11:25
■ **The Other Guys** (PG-13) 11:55, 2:30, 5:30, 8:15, 10:45
■ **Scott Pilgrim vs. the World** (PG-13) 11:30, 1:30, 5:15, 4:30, 7:05, 9:40
■ **Cats & Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore** (PG)
11:20, 1:45, 4:15, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10
■ **Step Up 3** (PG-13) 11:55, 2:00, 4:25, 7:25, 9:55
■ **Despicable Me** (PG) 11:05, 1:30, 4:05, 6:30, 8:50, 11:10
■ **Salt** (PG-13) 11:50, 4:55, 8:05, 10:30

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■ **Eat Pray Love** (PG-13) * 11:40, 12:40, 3:00, 5:30, 8:30, 10:00, 10:10
■ **The Expendables** (R) * 11:20, 2:00, 4:50, 7:20, 10:00
■ **Scott Pilgrim vs. the World** (PG-13) * 11:45, 2:30, 5:10, 8:10, 10:45
■ **Step Up 3D** (PG-13) 9:55 P.M.
■ **The Other Guys** (PG-13) 10:20, 1:20, 4:20, 7:40, 10:15
■ **Dinner for Schmucks** (PG-13) 11:50, 2:40, 5:20, 8:00, 9:30
■ **Salt** (PG-13) 11:50, 2:40, 5:20, 8:00

**the
juice**

Kith & Kin
1119 W. Webster
Ave. 773-472-7070



Brunch time:
11 am.-2 a.m.
Saturday-Sunday

Reservations:
Accepted

The house of Kin

By Lisa Arnett

At Kith & Kin, a charming neighborhood restaurant on a tree-lined stretch of Webster in Lincoln Park, lunch is actually brunch in disguise. Mid-day weekend service doesn't start until 11 a.m. and the menu is all soup, salad and sandwiches. But lucky for fans of the breakfast side of brunch, chef David Carrier augments the menu with a couple of specials every weekend.

Server says: The kitchen's out of grouper cheeks for the grouper cheek sandwich (\$14), so they're making it with haddock instead.

We say: Order it anyway. Carrier occasionally subs in another white fish when he can't get grouper, but either way, the beer-battered fish, shredded lettuce and creamy tartar sauce make for a delicious mess on a roll.

Feel free to pass on: The crocks—the crostini and spreads featured on the top of the menu—unless you're splurging on the foie gras (\$15). We weren't bowled over by the pimento cheese spread, and the egg and olive salad lost us with its watery texture (\$5 each).

We can't stop thinking about: The blueberry French toast (\$9). It sounded like a snooze when we saw it in on the chalkboard out front, but we were so wrong. Thick cuts of house-baked brioche (recipe credit goes to Carrier's wife, Rianne) taste like a hybrid of rich pound cake and buttery croissant, and the combo of fresh blueberries and bright, tart blueberry sauce made us forget about syrup entirely. Various versions of the dish rotate on and off of the specials lineup; past specials have included quiche, biscuits and gravy, and a down-home

platter of eggs, ham and grits.

Is it lunchtime yet? Garden-fresh heirloom tomato gazpacho (\$7) left our dining companion begging the server for the recipe. A BLT (\$7) features the brioche, and the cheeseburger comes with one (\$7) or two (\$11) four-ounce wagyu patties. The fries served on the side are just fine.

Buzz factor: Individual French presses (\$4) yield a special blend from local roaster Dark Matter Coffee Company.

Crowd surfing: A mix of 30-some things, mothers and adult daughters fresh off a morning of shopping, and at least one couple with kids. The dining room's fairly large, so until this meal catches on, it's a cinch to get a table.

LISA ARNETT IS THE METROMIX NIGHTLIFE PRODUCER. LMARNETT@TRIBUNE.COM.



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TICKETBOOTH

ON SALE 10 A.M. SATURDAY

Bassnectar, Eman-
cipator, Saturday,
Oct. 30 (\$35, 18+) at
Riviera Theatre.

Carolina Chocolate
Drops, Friday,
Oct. 22 (\$20, all ages)
at Park West.

The Frames,
Tuesday, Nov. 23 (\$26,
18+) at Vic Theatre.

Griffin House,
Tyler James, Friday,
Oct. 1 (\$17.50, all ages)
at Park West.

Grinderman, Mon-
day, Nov. 22 (\$29, 18+)
at Riviera Theatre.

Los Lobos, Back-
yard Tire Fire,
Saturday, Nov. 6 (\$35,
18+) at Vic Theatre.

Massive Attack, Fri-
day, Oct. 15 (\$40, 18+)

at Riviera Theatre.

Kate Nash, Tuesday,
Nov. 9 (\$20, all ages)
at Vic Theatre.

Never Shout
Never, Saturday,
Nov. 27 (\$16.50-\$18,
all ages) at House of Blues.

Parachute,
Hot Chelle Rae,
Friday, Oct. 22
(\$17.50, all ages) at
Subterranean.

Stars, Thursday,
Oct. 7 (\$22.50, 18+) at
Vic Theatre.

The XX, Warpaint,
Zola Jesus, Tuesday,
Sept. 28 (\$27.50, all
ages) at Chicago
Theatre.

Yonder Mountain
String Band, Friday,
Nov. 5, Saturday, Nov.
6 (\$23-\$28, 17+) at
House of Blues.



ON SALE 11 A.M. SATURDAY

Sufjan Stevens,
Friday, Oct. 15
(\$35, all ages) at
Chicago Theatre.

ON SALE NOON SATURDAY

The Infamous

ON SALE 10 A.M. SATURDAY

Massive Attack,
Martina Topley
Bird, Friday, Oct. 15
(\$40, 18+) at Riviera
Theatre.

Oct. 16 (\$11, 18+) at
Metro.

Rodeo, Down-Fi,
Sunday, Aug. 29 (\$5,
21+) at Double Door.

Rusko, Friday, Oct. 15
(\$21, 18+) at Metro.

ON SALE NOW

Stringdusters,
Trampled By
Turtles, Thursday,
Nov. 4 (\$15-\$18, 21+) at
Double Door.

▪

Louis CK, Saturday,
Oct. 2 (\$30-\$40, all
ages) at Chicago
Theatre.

Brandi Carlile,
Katie Herzig,
Wednesday, Oct. 13
(\$36-\$41, all ages) at
Space.

Joe Pug, Saturday,

TOP SHOWS

MATT PAIS' PICKS FOR WEEKEND CONCERTS

MAD DECENT BLOCK PARTY: KID SISTER, WILLY JOY, FREDDIE GIBBS, MORE

Oh, yes. You will dance. Chicago rapper Kid Sister in particular is a blast.
1 p.m. Sat. Free. RSVP at maddecentsblockparty.com. Outside of Hideout, 1354 W. Wabansia Ave. 773-227-4433.

NATHAN AND MATEO OF MADINA

LAKE, AM TAXI, THE FOLD,
THE LIFELINE, DAVID COSTA
Good local bands, great cause.
8 p.m. Sat. \$20-\$25. Double Door,
1572 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-489-3160.

HERBIE HANCOCK: THE IMAGINE PROJECT

Legend. Simple as that.
8 p.m. Sat. \$30-\$95. Symphony Center,
220 S. Michigan Ave. 312-294-3000.

THE RAILS

Chicagoans mix Michael Jackson and Maroon 5. With The Ivories, The Clergymen.
8 p.m. Sun. \$7. Schubas, 3159 N. Southport
Ave. 773-525-2508.

THE BLACK CROWES

Your last chance to see them?
8 p.m. Sat. \$38-\$53. The Chicago Theatre,
175 N. State St. 312-462-6300.

Mumford and Sons, Cadillac Sky

Sunday, Oct. 31 (\$20, all ages) at
Riviera Theatre.

OK Go

Sunday, Oct. 10
(\$22.50, all ages) at
House of Blues.

X Japan

Wednesday,
Oct. 6 (\$30, all ages) at
Riviera Theatre.

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Keep your wallet fat while dropping pounds

MCT

Fitness in a recession means balancing physical health with financial health. The average cost of a gym membership is \$40 to \$50 a month. After tacking on a membership fee, payments can run upward of \$750 a year. Yet, International Health, Racquet & Sportsclub Association data show "42 percent of club members attend their clubs less than 50 days per year," resulting in \$15 gym sessions.

If the goal is to shrink that bulge under your clothes, it will come from your wallet, not your spare tire. Before you sign a contract, consider these three frugal tips.



1 DIY living room gym

Exercise at home, for free. Trainer Carole Yeong says that getting a little workout time in at home doesn't have to be about sacrificing your leisure time. "Work out during the commercials when you're watching TV," she suggests. Yeong gives her clients plenty of practical things to do at home, including dips and modified push-up with a dining room chair. She also suggests doing curls with gallon water jugs and using the stairs for calf raises and lunges.

2 Invest in the long term

Maybe you do go to the gym often but use only the free weights or treadmill and avoid everything else. Consider purchasing some equipment for less than the price of an annual gym membership. Browse Craigslist for used equipment and set yourself up with the tools to stay fit without setting foot inside the gym again.

3 Avoid the commitment

You don't have to be rich or famous to have a personal trainer. "Making an investment in your health is very important when making the decision to be physically fit, but that doesn't have to cost a fortune. A personal trainer can work with your personal financial needs as well as individually tailor your workouts," Yeong says. As a certified trainer and spokeswoman for GoddessFit in Austin, Texas, Yeong works with clients during this tough economic time by offering discounts for partner training and setting up homework for days she's not meeting with clients. Getting a trainer also means avoiding contracts and sign-up fees.

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Chicago Tribune

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Sept. 14, 6 p.m.

Thorne Auditorium,
Northwestern University Law School
375 E. Chicago Ave.

Education

Panel discussion and reception
With Chicago's schools and the Illinois school financing system in crisis, what lies ahead for education in our region?

Join moderator **Bruce Dold**,
Chicago Tribune Editorial Page Editor,
along with panelists:

Ron Huberman
CEO, Chicago Public Schools

Karen Lewis
President, Chicago Teachers Union

Sister Mary Paul McCaughey
Superintendent of Schools, Archdiocese of Chicago

State Sen. James Meeks
Chairman, Education Committee

Harriet Meyer
President, Ounce of Prevention Fund



Tickets \$10

To register visit:
chicagotribune.com/tribnation

Upcoming events:

Nov. 17: Economy in Recovery

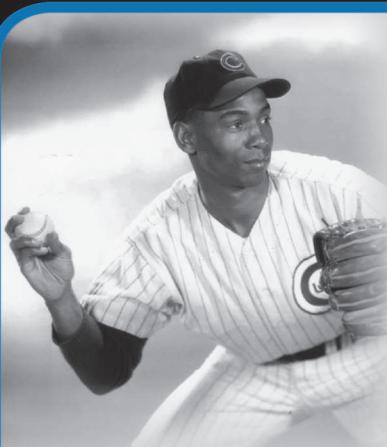
Jan. 18: Health Care

March 15: Philanthropy Giving Back

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Ernie Banks.**

**There's only one
Press Pass.**

**Thursday, August 26th
5:30-8:30 PM
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Press Pass Cubs featuring Ernie Banks

- Panel discussion with Chicago Tribune baseball columnist, **Phil Rogers** and WGN radio sports director, **Dave Eanet**
- Stadium tour and on-field photo
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news



Rod Blagojevich told "Today" co-host Meredith Vieira on Friday that this week's verdict confirmed his faith in God. NBC

Blago: No plea deal

Former governor praises holdout juror in his corruption trial

Chicago Tribune

Beginning a weekend media blitz, Rod Blagojevich said Friday morning he will not take any plea deal from prosecutors, accused them of trying to criminalize political horse-trading and emphasized repeatedly that he had not been convicted of any of the corruption charges against him.

And he said the lone jury holdout against convicting him on major corruption counts confirmed his faith in God.

"I've always had a deep and abiding faith in God," he said on NBC's "Today" show. "And when I look at that, it just confirms 'Praise God.' And I certainly thank her for her good judgment."

"If we put on a defense, I think we probably would have been acquitted" on every count, he added.

He continued to insist he had done nothing wrong, saying prosecutors had captured him on tape discussing only "possibilities" with lawyers and political advisers.

"Political horse-trading ... this is what they are trying to criminalize," he said.

He accused prosecutors of hypocrisy, saying they frequently make deals with convicted felons.

"The very thing they charge me with, they should charge themselves with," he said.

He said political horse-trading was a necessity of American politics and claimed a congressman who voted for President Obama's health care package was rewarded by having his brother nominated to a federal judgeship.

On the question of a plea deal, he said

MORE REALITY TV?

Rod Blagojevich said Friday on NBC's "Today" that if opportunities arise for another reality TV show, he would "certainly take a look at it," saying the government had squeezed him financially.

he continued to want full vindication and would take the stand if necessary at a retrial. He said he didn't testify at his first trial after promising to do so because the prosecution had not proved its case.

As part of his tour of New York media, Blagojevich will be a guest on "Fox News Sunday" with Chris Wallace, followed by a Monday appearance on Comedy Central's "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart."

Password police have magic number

Say goodbye to those wimpy, eight-letter passwords. The 12-character era of online security is upon us, according to a report published this week by the Georgia Institute of Technology.

The researchers used clusters of graphics cards to crack eight-character passwords in less than two hours.

But when the researchers applied that same processing power to 12-character passwords, they found it would take 17,134 years to make them snap.

"The length of your password in some cases can dictate the vulnerability," said Joshua Davis, a research scientist at the Georgia Tech Research Institute.

It's hard to say what will happen in the future, but for now, 12-character passwords should be the standard, said Richard Boyd, a senior research scientist who also worked on the project.

The researchers recommend 12-character passwords—as opposed to those with 11 or, say, 13 characters—because that number strikes a balance between "convenience and security."

They assumed a sophisticated hacker might be able to try 1 trillion password combinations per second. In that scenario, it takes 180 years to crack an 11-character password, but there's a big jump when you add just one more character—17,134 years. CNN

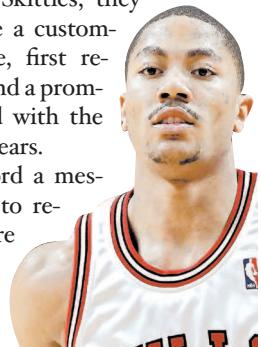
Sweet deal: Bulls star gets Skittles machine

Bulls guard Derrick Rose is known for his insatiable sweet tooth. A college teammate once revealed he ate gummy bears for breakfast and honey buns for dinner.

Now that he's an NBA All-Star, the candy makers come to him. When the Chicago-based Wm. Wrigley Jr. Company got word Rose's diet included handfuls of Skittles, they delivered to his house a customized vending machine, first reported by cnbc.com, and a promise to keep it stocked with the tangy treats for three years.

Rose can even record a message on the machine to remind him to eat more Skittles ... or that the Heat visit on Jan. 15.

TRIBUNE



sports

Pro jockey
Michael Baze
FOUR FOOTED FOTOS



**Broken bones,
40 mph rides
all part of the job
for Michael Baze**

SPEED THRILLS

By Ryan Smith

FOR REDEYE

Many of us have Seabiscuit-inspired fantasies of horse racing as the ultimate in old-school leisure—dapper outfits, fancy hats and mint juleps. But for jockeys, the sport can be closer to a rough-and-tumble game of football than a lazy Sunday at the park.

Just ask pro jockey Michael Baze, one of several rough riders slated to ride Saturday at the 28th Arlington Million and International Festival of Racing.

The Washington state native, 23, chatted with RedEye this week about the rigors and thrills of being a jockey. **RYAN SMITH IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.**

How dangerous is the jockey's life?

Injuries are pretty common. I've fractured my neck, shattered my nose, broke my collarbone and I have a plate in my eye socket. I was in a race where another jockey cut me off, and I ended up slamming my face into my horse's head. Horse racing is a lot more rough than people think it is.

What do you like most about racing?

I love the rush of it. I mean, you go from a standstill point to 40 mph very quickly. And you're busy trying to get your horse in a certain position. The feeling of it is incredible, especially when you're close to winning the race.

What kind of horse do you ride?

I ride a lot of horses actually, about five or six different ones a day. The horse I'm riding for the Arlington Million is named Tajaweed. He finished third a few weeks ago in a race so I'm hopeful. But this race is tough because there is so much money involved.

What do you say to the horse before a race?

I talk to them some, depending on the horse's personality. I mean, I don't try to have a conversation with them or anything. They don't really talk back. But sometimes I say things like "c'mon, boy" and tap them on the neck and try to get them pumped up for the race.

International Festival of Racing

When: 12:15 p.m.
Saturday

Where: Arlington Park, 2200 W. Euclid Ave., Arlington Heights

Price: \$12 in advance at arlingtonpark.com; \$15 at gate

five on one

It's not football season until Lovie Smith has to defend his starting quarterback. Join in on weekday Five on Five at redeyechicago.com/5on5.



TOPIC	ERNEST WILKINS @ernestwilkins	TRACY SWARTZ @tracyswartz	CHRIS SOSA @sayitissosa	MICHAEL HINES @givemetexture	BRIAN MOORE @redeyesportguy
Give us a nickname for this season's Bears offense.	The Inept-ables	Bear Minimum	The Cookie Monsters of the Midway—always making a mess of things.	Mission to Martz	The Lamest Show on Turf

whoville

My endless love

Long-term celeb couples we adore

By Dana Moran | REDEYE

After the untimely breakup of Elisabeth Moss and Fred Armisen after less than a year of marriage, I discovered that Susan Sarandon and Tim Robbins went behind my back last year and announced their own breakup. How did I miss this? It happened Dec. 23. Guess I was too busy with family festivities to pay attention to the celeb world.

Well, that won't be happening again. I'm kinda sad about this though, considering Sarandon and Robbins were together for 23 years. Here are some more couples who need to keep giving it the old college try, and how long they've been together.



Heidi Klum and Seal 6 years

Look how adorable these two are! They're having so much fun! Heidi and Seal may have nearly as many kids as Brangelina, but they've managed to stay fresh and keep their family mostly out of the spotlight. Plus, I just love this quote from Heidi to InStyle, on being excited about her husband (please read in German accent): "Sometimes I lie in bed, and I'm like, 'Oh my God, there's Seal lying next to me. What's he doing there?'"



Will Smith and Jada Pinkett Smith 13 years

I remember reading about these two in Seventeen magazine when I was about 14 and thinking, "Aw, they're so cute together!" The sentiment still applies. Will seems like one of the nicest guys in Hollywood and the music industry, and he and Jada appear to really respect one another. Plus, they've raised their kids with great fashion sense and acting ability.

Ellen DeGeneres and Portia de Rossi 6 years

Ellen went through a lot of crazies to get to Portia (oooo, Anne Heche), but made a major upgrade with her wife of two years. Ellen's aw-shucks attitude and the couple's sweetness toward each other make them great role models. They both looked like they were about to cry their eyes out when Ellen announced their engagement on her show. Check it out on YouTube.



txtable

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Tom Hanks and Rita Wilson 22 years

They're almost up to Sarandon and Robbins' number, but we don't see these two splitting up anytime soon. Though they worked on a film together before they were dating, their career paths really haven't crossed since—probably a good move. Tom and Rita are that comfortable couple who remind you of your favorite aunt and uncle. You know you can always count on them.



Penelope Cruz and Javier Bardem 3 years

Javier and Penelope are smokin' hot on their own, so they must be entirely flammable when they're together. They also were good at keeping their relationship WAY under the radar; no one was even sure they were a couple until they married earlier this year. Way to not air your dirty laundry.

red hot



Stewart



Aniston

Aniston's awkward date

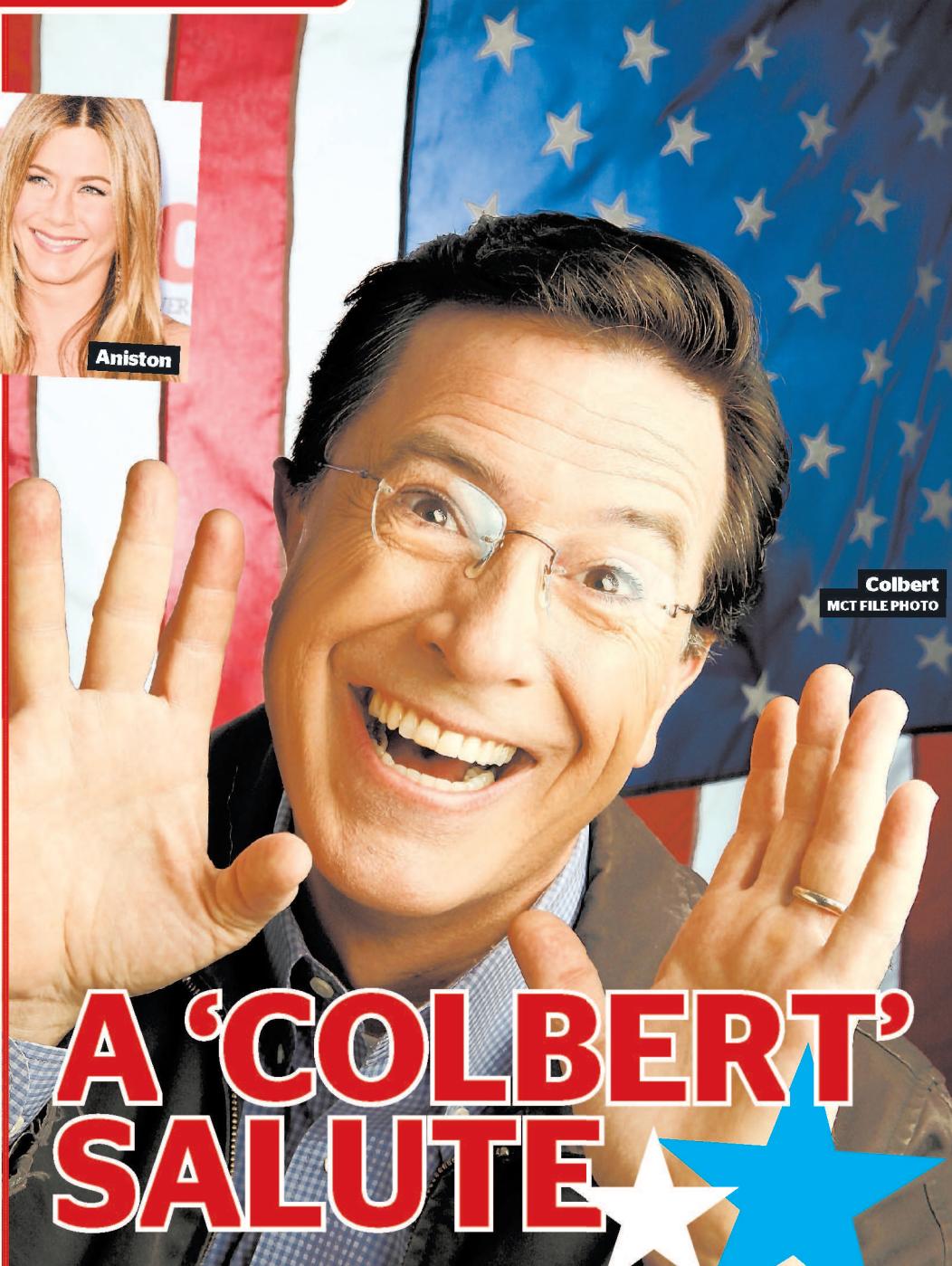
What? Jennifer Aniston and Jon Stewart dated? When Aniston appeared Thursday on "The Daily Show," Stewart talked about their dinner at an Italian restaurant in Manhattan in the mid-'90s. "It was lovely," he said. "You brought so many of your friends, and I remember thinking, 'Wow, she's so excited to be on a date with me she wants me to get to know her posse,'" he said. Aniston's response: "That's really sad." Aniston recalls the dinner being a group outing.



Daly

THE DIGIT**10**

NBC has renewed "Last Call with Carson Daly" for a 10th season, **variety.com** reports. Wow, has it been a decade since his "TRL" heyday on MTV?

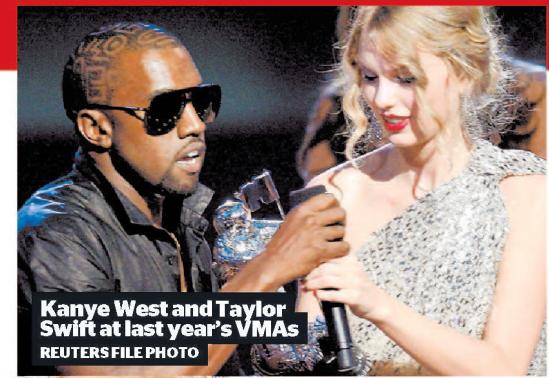
Colbert
MCT FILE PHOTO

"The Colbert Report" will host some special guests Sept. 8 and 9 when the Comedy Central show broadcasts two specials that honor the return of combat troops from Iraq.

"Been There, Won That: The Returnification of the Ameri-Can-Do Troopscape" will feature an appearance

by Vice President Joe Biden and an audience made up of service men and women.

"The Iraq War is over and all Americans should thank the returning troops," host Steven Colbert said in a news release. "And quickly before they get sent to Afghanistan."

Kanye West and Taylor Swift at last year's VMAs
REUTERS FILE PHOTO
Handler has a VMA wish

Chelsea Handler (left) is itching for a Kanye West-Taylor Swift reunion Sept. 12 at the MTV Video Music Awards, a year after the rapper interrupted Swift's award acceptance speech. "We'll try to think of something clever to do with them, because that would be really fun," Handler, who will host this year's VMAs, said Thursday on Ryan Seacrest's radio show, according to **nypost.com**.

Spencer Pratt, Vol. 2

Don't want to hear any more from Spencer Pratt? Sorry. Pratt told **usmagazine.com** he is writing a tell-all about his relationship with his soon-to-be ex-wife, Heidi Montag. "My last book, 'How to Be Famous,' didn't make the New York Times best-seller list because it was in the self-help section," Pratt told the mag. "This one is going to be totally different. I'm not holding anything back."

Blago will crash Comic Con

Rod Blagojevich will take a break from his weekend media blitz Saturday to appear at Wizard World's Chicago Comic Con in Rosemont, organizers announced Friday. The former governor will attend a photo session at 10:30 a.m., followed by an autograph period from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

► TURN TO PAGE 20 FOR MORE ON BLAGOJEVICH'S BUSY WEEKEND.

Material lawsuit

Madonna is the original Material Girl, but she might not be able to use the name for the new juniors clothing line she designed with her daughter Lourdes. LA Triumph is suing the singer, claiming it has been marketing clothes under the Material Girl brand since 1997, reports **people.com**. "Gossip Girl" Taylor Momsen is the face of Madonna's collection, which launched at Macy's earlier this month.

Madonna
GETTY IMAGES FILE PHOTO